

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A printhead includes plural print elements grouped in blocks. The blocks are selected by a block selection unit to which an initial value is inputted. The initial value is kept in a memory unit, and the blocks are autonomously and periodically selected by the initial value kept in the memory unit. The initial value is variable, and the block selection unit changes the order of selected blocks using the changed initial value. Thus, displacement in the main scanning direction resulting from the periodically selected blocks can be eliminated.